

Remarks

Applicant respectfully requests favorable consideration of this office action response and amendment, as well as consideration of the pending claims as amended herein. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned by telephone to facilitate any remaining questions or issues.

Status of Pending Claims:

Claims 216-220, 222-229, 231-232, 235, 237-253, 258-260, 342 and 350 are pending in this application.

There are no claims which are (Currently amended).

Claims 216, 218-229, 222-224, 227-229, 231-232, 235, 237, 239-244, 247-250, 252-253, 258-260, 342 and 350 are (Previously presented).

Claims 217, 220, 225-226, 238, 245-246 and 251 are (Original).

There are no claims which are (New).

Claims 1-215, 221, 230, 233-234, 236, 254-257 are (Canceled).

Claims 261-341 and 343-349 are (Withdrawn).

Summary of Examiner's Claim Rejections:

Claims 216-220, 222, 224, 231, 235, 238-240, 243, 248-253, 258, 342, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 4841731 (Tindell) in view of U.S. 7062912 (Penfornis et al.). Claim 223 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 4841731 (Tindell) in view of U.S. 7062912 (Penfornis et al.) and U.S. 6588212 (Wallace et al.). Claims 225-227 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. 4841731 (Tindell) in view of U.S. 7062912 (Penfornis et al.) and U.S. 5899072 (Gode). Claims 231, 235 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. 4841731 (Tindell) in view of U.S. 7062912 (Penfornis et al.) and U.S. 5516359 (Kang et al.). Claim 237 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. 4841731 (Tindell) in view of U.S. 7062912 (Penfornis et al.) and U.S. 4440545 (Weidig). Claim 241 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. 4841731 (Tindell) in view of U.S. 7062912 (Penfornis et al.) and U.S. 3975913 (Erickson). Claim 242 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. 4841731 (Tindell) in view of U.S. 7062912 (Penfornis et al.) and U.S. 4664857 (Nambu). Claims 259-260, 350 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. 4841731 (Tindell) in view of U.S. 7062912 (Penfornis et al.) and U.S. 6212876 (Gregory et al.). Claims 244-247 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. 4841731 (Tindell) in view of U.S. 7062912 (Penfornis et al.) and U.S. 6698183 (Thordarson).